

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 10780 291635Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----127737 291937Z /44

R 291627Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5669  
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 10780

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PDEV, RH, UK  
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: CONVERSATION WITH COMMONWEALTH  
SYG RAMPHAL

1. I HAD LUNCH TODAY WITH SONNY RAMPHAL, AND MUCH OF OUR CONVERSATION TURNED ON RHODESIA. HE WAS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED WITH THE PACE THAT DAVID OWEN HAS SET FOR REACHING A SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA. WHILE HE AGREES WITH THE SENSE OF URGENCY CONVEYED BY OWEN, HE BELIEVES THE BRITISH (AND BY IMPLICATION OURSELVES) HAVE NOT SUFFICIENTLY CONSULTED WITH THE FRONT-LINE PRESIDENTS THE NIGERIANS AND OTHER IMPORTANT AFRICAN LEADERS, OR WITH THE LIKELY CONTRIBUTORS TO A COMMONWEALTH FORCE. HE SAID SUSPICION IS RISING IN AFRICAN QUARTERS THAT THE FORTHCOMING PROPOSALS FOR A RHODESIA SETTLEMENT HAVE  
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BEEN HATCHED IN WHITEHALL AND SALISBURY AND ARE NOT THE PRODUCT OF A REAL CONSULTATIVE PROCESS.

2. RAMPHAL FEARS THAT RECENT PRESS LEAKS IN LONDON ABOUT A POSSIBLE COMMONWEALTH FORCE WILL MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT POLITICALLY FOR GOVERNMENTS TO CONTRIBUTE TO A PEACE-KEEPING MISSION WHEN THE TIME COMES. NO COMMONWEALTH

GOVERNMENT IS ANXIOUS TO BECOME INVOLVED IN THE LAW AND ORDER ARRANGEMENTS OF THE TRANSITIONAL PHASE, RAMPHAL SAID, AND PREMATURE SPECULATION IN THE NEWSPAPERS HERE MIGHT SERVE TO HARDEN DOMESTIC OPPOSITION IN VARIOUS COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES. MOREOVER, IF SUCH A FORCE IS PROPOSED SOLELY BY THE BRITISH, ITS DESIRED NEUTRAL CHARACTER MAY BE COMPROMISED.

BREWSTER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, PEACE PLANS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 29-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977LONDON10780  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RHODESIA: CONVERSATION WITH COMMONWEALTH SYG RAMPHAL  
**TAGS:** PDEV, RH, UK, (RAMPHAL, SONNY)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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22 May 2009  
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